

BROWN COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1  
Mt. Sterling, Illinois  
November 16, 2016

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, November 16, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Office at 503 NW Cross Street, Mt. Sterling, Illinois. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Alan Koch then President Philip Krupps presided when he arrived. The minutes were recorded by Tracy Flowers, Secretary.

On roll call, the following members answered present: Blaesing, Blakeley, Fry; Fullerton, Koch and McCaskill. Krupps arrived at 6:15.

*Public Comment Speakers:* none

1. Motion by Fry, seconded by Blaesing, to approve the consent agenda.

Roll call: Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea, McCaskill yea.  
Motion carried.

*Correspondence:* none

*Committee Reports:* none

Reminder that the Truth in Taxation hearing will be at next month's board meeting, December 21 at 5:45 pm.

Informational discussion regarding the Youth Leadership Academy was led by Hallie Laning along with the other student participants of Chloe Alsop, Marissa Cowan and Melissa Perry. They explained the various activities of the Youth Leadership Academy including the personality assessment they took to learn about their personalities and how various personalities work together and what some of the traits are of each different types of personalities. They also explained other activities that the Leadership Academy does with the participants to help them develop their leadership skills. The Leadership Academy is funded and led by the U of I Extension and has been in existence since 2006.

Bids for the upgraded fire panel and alarm system at high school were reviewed. There were two bids received with one from Alarm Systems, Inc. for \$75,918.88 and one from Seico Security for \$61,450.00.

2. Motion by McCaskill, seconded by Fullerton, to approve the bid of Seico Security for the upgraded fire panel and alarm system at the high school.

Roll call: Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea, McCaskill yea; Blaesing, yea.

Motion carried.

*Discussion about reading comprehension instruction:* Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Sandy Prather provided a discussion of the research by staff of what the best methods to work with students who have not developed reading fluency, but not necessarily adequate reading comprehension which is the skill that is most needed for all readers. The research that has been part of an ongoing look at the best methodology has included consultation with various reputable resources and experts. All elementary school teachers and some middle school teachers have volunteered to be a part of this training without it being required. The training will be funded through Title I and Title II funds. The work of the teachers through this training as a guide, will be developing a system of support for students utilizing the Orton-Gillingham methodology which is built upon using phonetics to assist students in developing reading comprehension skills. Mrs. Phillips noted that she was impressed and appreciative of the spirit and willingness of the teachers to choose to be a part of this valuable training that will take place on one evening a month for six hours after school starting in December through the end of the school year. The inclusion of additional reading comprehension instruction to students who have not developed the skills needed to be able to use reading to learn is in response to one of the goals in our School Improvement Plan which is: ACADEMIC GOAL 2: Development of Tier III Interventions for Students Who Are Not Showing Progress from the Implementation of Other Methods to Increase Reading Comprehension and other Academic Skills.

*Philip Krupps arrived at 6:15 pm.*

3. Motion by Krupps, seconded by Blakeley, to approve the early completion request of high school credits received by Lindsey Moore and Kirsten Ham.

Roll call: Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; McCaskill yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea.

Motion carried.

Specialized Data Systems – Mrs. Phillips requested the board’s approval to purchase the SDS Financial Software to be used for the District Financial Bookkeeping. This will replace the software used in the Board of Education office for the purposes of bookkeeping of the district financial funds. It will not replace the Skyward system used by Teachers or parents for student information. The Skyward system will stay in place for the teachers, parents, and students. This change is only for the purposes of Board Office bookkeeping. This request is consistent with the STRATEGIC GOAL 1: BALANCED BUDGET TO ACHIEVE FINANCIAL STABILITY AND FISCAL INTEGRITY WHILE ALIGNING RESOURCES EFFECTIVELY TO PROVIDE A RELENTLESSLY GROWTH-MINDED EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

4. Motion by Koch, seconded by Fry, to approve Specialized Data Systems as our district financial software.

Roll call: Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; McCaskill yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea.  
Motion carried.

*Administrators Reports of Strategic and Academic Goals:* Mrs. Phillips recognized the Veterans Day Programs that were held at the HS for the Middle and High Schools and the program held at the Elementary School. All were well-done and were quite an honor to Veterans.

Mrs. Pollee Craven gave congratulations to Mrs. Ingram and the drama club on their successful Variety Show this past weekend. The students paid special tribute to veterans at the end of each performance. Approximately eighty students are involved in the drama program. Fifty of those students participated in the Variety Show.

5. Motion by Blaesing, seconded by Koch, to go into closed session for: a) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the School District at 6:27 pm.

Roll call: Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; McCaskill yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea.  
Motion carried.

*Blakeley left at 6:27 pm.*

6. Motion by Fry, seconded by McCaskill, to go out of closed session at 6:40 pm.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; McCaskill yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea.  
Motion carried.

7. Motion by Koch, seconded by Blaesing, to approve the minutes of closed session.

Roll call: McCaskill yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea.  
Motion carried.

8. Motion by Blaesing, seconded by Koch, to approve the list below as presented regarding personnel issues.

Roll call: Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; McCaskill, abstain.  
Motion carried.

\*Transfer Patty Jennings to ES night custodian

\*Transfer Peggy Dewitt to HS night custodian

\*Approve Kris McCaskill's leave of absence

9. Motion by Blaesing, seconded by Koch, to adjourn at 6:42 pm.

Motion carried by acclamation.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY